

WI-442
Purnell House
Salisbury
Private

c. 1900

Standing at the west end of Second Street, is a two-story, side hall/parlor frame dwelling commonly known as the Purnell house, named for the family that has owned this property since the mid 1920s. Originally built on a brick pier foundation and lighted by two-over-two Victorian sash, the house was built around the turn of the twentieth century.

The lot on which this house stands was included in the large landing holdings of William S. Parsons, who operated a saw mill at the south end of Second Street during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. He held title to a large portion of this west side neighborhood when it was subdivided into smaller building lots. With its construction around 1900, the house was intended as a tenant property. In 1921 the house and lot were acquired by John Dorman, who passed the frame house and lot on to Luran L. Dorman.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Purnell House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-442

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance
1870-1930
4. Resource Type(s): Dwelling

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-442

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Purnell House

2. Location

street & number 102 Second Street ☐ not for publication

city, town Salisbury ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Sophia Marie Purnell

street & number 809 Pelham Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Warminster state and zip code PA 18974

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 106 p. 1233
liber 242

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 333

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

Title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WI-442

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Purnell house, located at 102 Second Street, is a two-story, side hall/parlor frame dwelling located in the west side neighborhood of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The house faces southeast with the gable roof oriented on a northeast/southwest axis.

Dating around 1900, the two-story, side hall/parlor frame house is supported on an infilled brick pier foundation. Rusticated concrete blocks were used as infill. The exterior is clad uniformly with aluminum siding. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story, two-bay dining room/kitchen wing.

The two-bay Second Street facade is defined by a side entrance and paired two-over-two sash windows on the first floor, which is sheltered by a single story hip roofed porch dating from the mid twentieth century. The porch roof is supported by square posts and the space between is infilled with a knee wall sheathed with aluminum siding. The second floor is lighted by a pair of evenly spaced two-over-two sash windows. Trimming the edge of the roof is a boxed cornice covered with aluminum as well.

The southwest gable end of the main block is defined by an asymmetrical fenestration with two small windows lighting the first floor and a single two-over-two sash window lighting the second floor. Rising through the gable end is a single flue brick stove chimney finished with a corbelled cap. The edge of the roof is finished with a slightly extended eave that terminates at the base with short returns. The northeast gable end is similarly detailed.

Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story, two-room plan service wing with an internal brick chimney piercing the roofline between the two rooms. Two-over-two sash windows light the first and second floors.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-442

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Standing at the west end of Second Street, is a two-story, side hall/parlor frame dwelling commonly known as the Purnell house, named for the family that has owned this property since the mid 1920s.¹ Originally built on a brick pier foundation, and lighted by two-over-two Victorian sash, the house was built around the turn of the twentieth century.

The lot on which this house stands was included in the large landing holdings of William S. Parsons, who operated a saw mill at the south end of Second Street during the third quarter of the nineteenth century.² He held title to a large portion of the west side neighborhood during its subdivision into smaller building lots. With its construction around 1900, the house was intended as a tenant property. In 1921 the house and lot were acquired by John Dorman, who passed the frame house and lot on to Luran L. Dorman.³

¹ Wicomico County Land Record, JCK 146/347, 9 December 1926.

² John L. Graham, ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Wicomico County Bicentennial Committee, 1976, p. 19.

³ Wicomico County Land Record, JCK 126/346, 1 March 1921.

WI-442
Purnell House
102 Second Street
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 106, Parcel 1233

242/333 Edward J. Purnell of Westchester County, N. Y.
Edith E. Purnell of Wicomico County

to

8/31/1942 Sophia Maria Purnell and the Salisbury Building and
Loan Association of Wicomico County

JCK 146/347 Lauran L. Dorman, et ux.

to

12/9/1926 Edward Purnell, Baltimore City

Lot No. 25 as laid dow on a plat of real estate of
George W. Parsons, deceased as is described in
Chancery Case No. 683

John Dorman

to

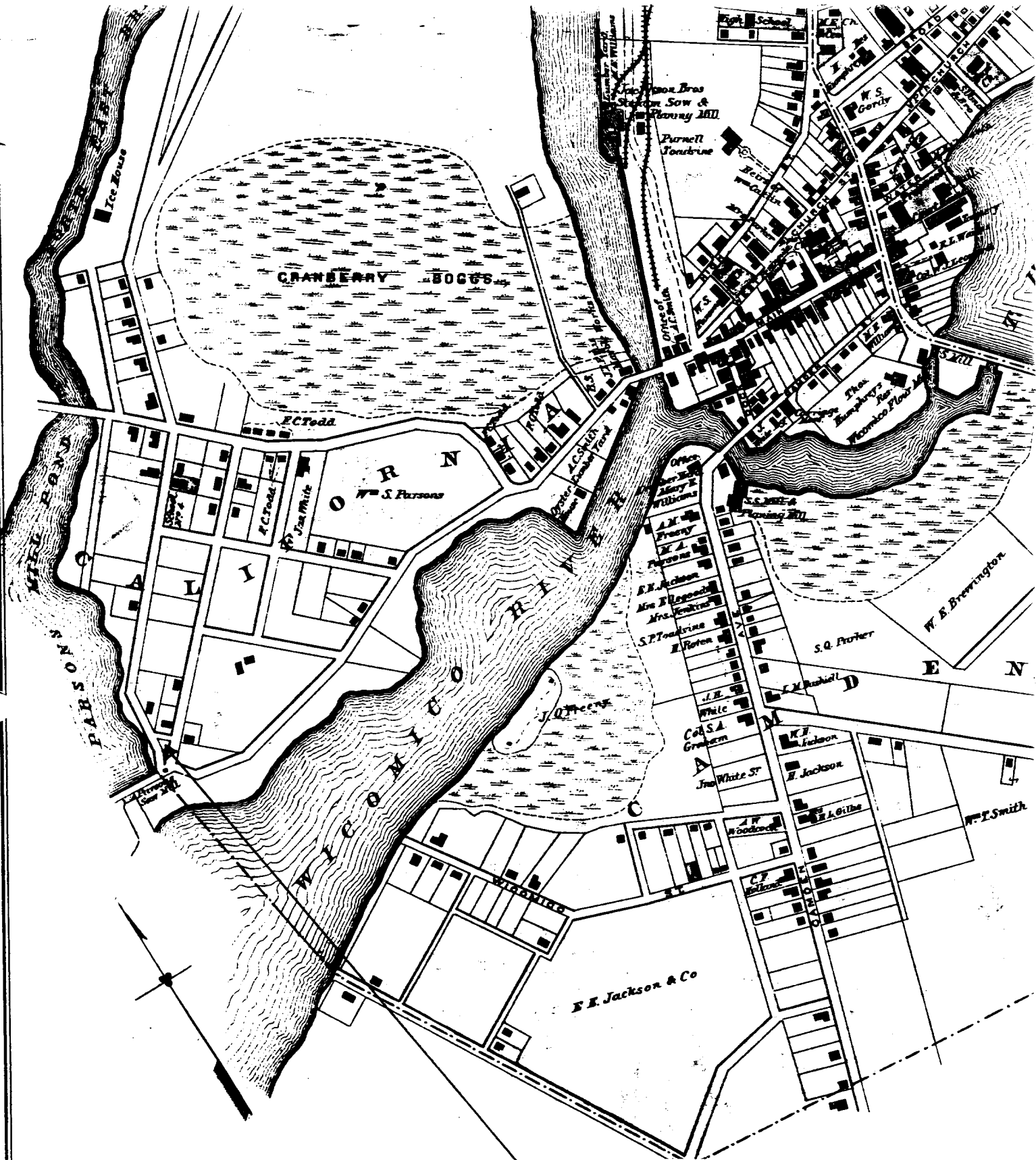
Lauran L. Dorman

JCK 126/346 Martha C. Hitchens, et al.

to

3/1/1921 John Dorman

Item 2 Lot No. 25
...as described in the Chancery Case No. 683 and
which was conveyed to William S. Parsons by E.
Stanley Toadvine and another trustee, 10/24/1892



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102 Second Street
Salisbury, Wicomico County, MD

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas
1877

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

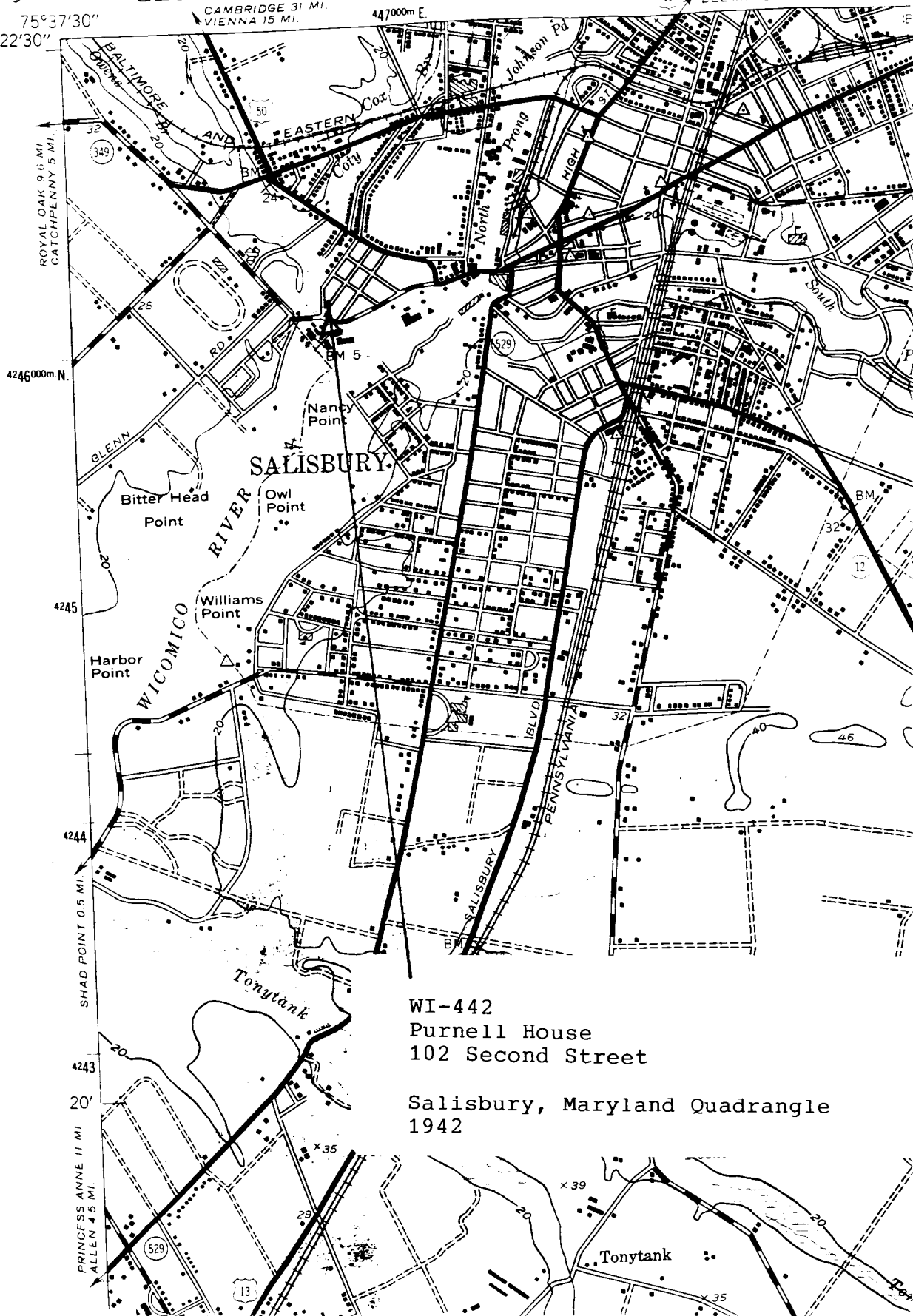
5860 1 NW
(HEBRON)

75°37'30"
38°22'30"

CAMBRIDGE 31 MI.
VIENNA 15 MI.

447000m E

LAUREL 13 M
DELMAR 6 M



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102 Second Street

Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle
1942



